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## For Immediate Release

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### **Fairfield, Foundation discuss management of arts center**

**Fairfield, California (Monday, July 2, 2012)**—Fairfield has entered into a non-binding Letter of Intent with a newly-created foundation for the management of the Fairfield Center for Creative Arts (FCCA). Performances are scheduled to cease at the FCCA on July 2 as part of the latest round of budget-reduction measures adopted by the Fairfield City Council.

The FCCA had cost the City over \$400,000/year to manage and operate. Under this Letter of Intent proposal, the City would pay a maximum of \$39,000/year to the foundation, based on the number of performances held at the FCCA. The majority of the \$39,000 was already budgeted by the City to maintain the empty building, which will now be maintained by the foundation. In addition, Valley Internet, a local internet provider, would be leasing a small amount of office space. Rent proceeds from this lease would also go to help fund the foundation's operations of the FCCA.

The proposed agreements require City Council approval before they could go into effect. It is expected that a proposed management agreement and a lease agreement will be presented to the City Council at a special meeting on July 26. If approved, the FCCA could reopen for performances in September.

"We are very pleased to find a way for the Fairfield Center for Creative Arts to continue to operate publicly, with no additional costs to the City," said City Manager Sean Quinn. "The FCCA is an important component of the City's downtown; and provides the only venue in Fairfield for our local performing arts groups."

Under the terms of the Letter of Intent, The Solano Foundation for the Creative Arts would serve as the operator of the facility for five years, with two additional five-year options to renew. The Foundation would be required to have a minimum number of performances at the FCCA each year in order to continue to operate the facility. The Foundation would be responsible for all aspects of operating the center, including scheduling of performances, maintenance, technical support, marketing, and box office services.

Ofer Tenenbaum, chief executive of the Foundation, approached the City with this proposal in April, shortly after the City announced the planned closure of the FCCA. Tenenbaum, owner of Valley Internet, has long been a supporter of the local arts, and is working with the City to make this arrangement a win-win-win situation – for arts in the community, the City, and his business.

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